



PALM BEACH NORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



2026 PROSPERITY AGENDA

Our shared purpose is to foster a partnership of private, public, education, and civic organizations working together to ensure Palm Beach North is *Florida's Prosperity Coast*.®

WE ARE BUILDING A PROSPEROUS COMMUNITY.

- Resilient & Connected Region
- Prosperous Economy
- High Quality of Life

IN SUPPORT OF ITS MISSION TO CREATE A PROSPEROUS ECONOMY, HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE, AND RESILIENT AND CONNECTED REGION, THE PALM BEACH NORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE REQUESTS YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE FOLLOWING EFFORTS.

Palm Beach North is a remarkable place to live, learn, work, and play, offering a unique blend of natural beauty, thriving communities, and economic opportunity. The region's 11 distinct and historic municipalities come together to form Florida's Prosperity Coast®, setting the standard for excellence in the sunshine state.

The Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce proudly represents nearly 800 members across the region, from West Palm Beach to Tequesta, fostering a vibrant business environment and supporting the continued success of this extraordinary community.

21%
of Palm Beach
County's Population

330,000
Resident Population

22%
of All Jobs in
Palm Beach County

11
Municipalities
Town of Juno Beach
Town of Jupiter
Town of Jupiter Inlet Colony
Town of Lake Park
Town of Mangonia Park
Village of North Palm Beach
City of Palm Beach Gardens
Town of Palm Beach Shores
City of Riviera Beach
Village of Tequesta
City of West Palm Beach

35,000+
Businesses

170,000
Employed Workforce

Voter Registration
35.6% Democratic
34.6% Republican
26.3% NPA
3.5% Other



RESILIENT & CONNECTED REGION



DEVELOP A REGIONAL RISK AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS & RECOVERY STRATEGY.

- Strongly support renewing and enhancing a statewide plan for catastrophic disasters and resiliency with the establishment of metrics.
- Invest in strengthening infrastructure and long-term resiliency.
- **Support Resiliency Grants** and **Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT)** funding programs to help small communities plan and construct safe emergency evacuation routes.

LEAD IN SMART REGION/CITY TECHNOLOGIES.

- Support key enabling legislation and policy for technological innovation without overregulation.
- Promote grant funding opportunities from **FDOT** and **FloridaCommerce**, and other appropriate State agencies.
- Prioritize key transportation and logistics initiatives and essential funding for **FDOT** projects.
- Support funding for broadband expansion, access, and affordability.

PREPARE FOR MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS.

- Champion innovations in all modes of transportation.
- Ensure only authorized use of the **State Transportation Trust Fund**.
- Restore funding for **Tri-Rail** to its previous funding levels to improve connections between Palm Beach North municipalities and surrounding regions.
- Invest in expanding multimodal transportation efforts.



PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

DEVELOP AND RETAIN A SKILLED WORKFORCE TO MEET PALM BEACH NORTH EMPLOYER NEEDS.

- Support the growth of career and vocational education, advising, and curriculum with workforce grants and other funding opportunities.
- Take action to increase the pool of workforce to fill vacancies, with a focus in healthcare, technology, construction, and agriculture.
- Continue to support the construction, maintenance, and operation of **Public Education Capital Outlay** ("PECO") facilities within the Palm Beach North region.
- Prepare the workforce of tomorrow through financial support for **Palm Beach State College** (PBSC), **Florida Atlantic University** (FAU), the **School District of Palm Beach County**, and **CareerSource Palm Beach County** (our "Educational Partners").
- Support higher education initiatives, including the following requests from **FAU**, **PBSC**, **The Wertheim UF Scripps Institute**, and **Max Planck Florida Institute for Neuroscience**:
 - Support **FAU's** strategic plan and state appropriations requests to grow enrollment, expand student success and deliver opportunity and outcomes for the region and State through recruitment and retention of top talent instructional and research faculty and the expansion of health programs and research infrastructure.
 - Support the continued funding of the **FAU Lab Schools Center for Educational Strategy and Innovation**, which will build on the lab school district's stellar reputation of innovation in education by equipping teachers, administrators and educational leaders at schools throughout Florida with the skills to replicate Florida Atlantic's successful model across the region and state.
 - Support continued funding of the **Max Planck Scientific Fellows** program at **FAU** to train the next generation of the best and brightest researchers.
 - Continue and expand state support for **The Wertheim UF Scripps Institute's** groundbreaking biomedical research and educational programs that returns more than \$6 in economic benefit per \$1 invested to the area through training the workforce of the future and pursuing cures for incurable diseases affecting thousands of Floridians.
 - Support continued funding for the development of **PBSC's Emergency Response Training Center**, creating a national hub for public safety training with specialized facilities, degree programs, and disaster preparedness initiatives.
 - Support **PBSC's** request for new funding for their **Transportation Technology Expansion Project** to enhance equipment, create curriculum (including custom VR learning enhancements), and hire faculty, preparing students for high-demand, high-wage jobs.



- Support **PBSC's** funding request to expand their **Construction Trades programs** at the Palm Beach Gardens campus with a permanent facility for labs, classrooms, and offices, preparing students for advanced roles in electrical, HVAC, plumbing, carpentry, and related fields to help address Florida's skilled labor shortage.

FOSTER THE CREATION AND GROWTH OF SMALL BUSINESSES IN PALM BEACH NORTH.

- Advocate for expanded access to affordable health insurance for all.
- Support **FloridaCommerce's** efforts to assist small businesses.
- Ensure continued support for **Florida's Small Business Development Center** network.

IDENTIFY AND IMPLEMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES.

- Support marine development projects.
- Continue to promote and support **Sober Homes and Addiction Recovery Regulation**, as well as associated legislation to address Palm Beach County's opioid crisis.
- Continue to support the authorization of expanded gaming opportunities in Palm Beach County (e.g. sports betting) at licensed pari-mutuel facilities.

POSITION PALM BEACH NORTH AS A HUB FOR INNOVATION AND GROWTH OF TARGETED INDUSTRIES.

- Promote public infrastructure and workforce training across Palm Beach County through funding from the **Florida Jobs Growth Grant**.
- Ensure continued support and development of Bioscience Research in Palm Beach North (e.g. **Biomedical Research Trust Fund** investment and allocations).
- Promote funding, placement, and collaboration for innovative programs within Palm Beach North, including those linked to our Educational Partners like **The Wertheim UF Scripps Institute** and **TMRW Sports** at PBSC.



HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE

EXPAND HOUSING OPTIONS, WITH CONCENTRATION IN FUNDING ESSENTIAL SERVICES HOUSING BY SUPPORTING LEGISLATION THAT ADDRESSES:

- Property insurance reform to ensure availability of affordable property owners' insurance.
- Full funding and protection of the **Sadowski Local Government Housing Trust Funds**.
- Incentivize neighborhood mobility options for affordable housing development that will connect to current public transit networks.
- Take decisive action to expand workforce housing through regulatory reforms and strategic incentives.

COORDINATE LOCAL GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT, AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP PLANS.

- Enact long-term, economically viable, sustainable water and environmental policies that address:
 - Adequate funding and other resources with accountability requirements for **Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP)** and the **Water Districts**, including necessary research for causes of algae and red tide issues.
 - Development of a state program for a strategy and funding to convert septic to sewer.
 - A strategy, and funding, for the implementation of **Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP)**.
 - Support appropriations requests that have been approved and ranked by the **Loxahatchee River Preservation Initiative** to ensure improved water quality in the Loxahatchee River Watershed.
 - Support appropriations requests that have been approved and ranked by the **Lake Worth Lagoon Initiative** to ensure improved water quality in the Lake Worth Lagoon Estuary.
- Support State funding for the **Town of Mangonia Park's** "Modernization and Expansion" of its water treatment plant.
- Continue to protect state parks, ensuring they remain natural spaces free from development.
- Support legislation for safe lithium battery disposal.





PROMOTE AND ENHANCE EARLY LEARNING THROUGH GRADE 12 EDUCATION SYSTEM.

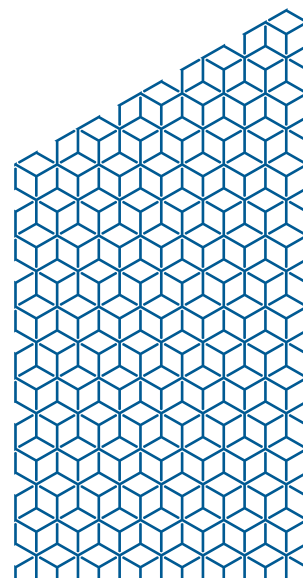
- Support funding and increased access to early learning programs.
- Support charter school options and accountability.
- Fund full-day, high quality Voluntary Pre-K program for all.
- Support increased State funding for mental health services and increase the **Safe Schools** categorical allocation.
- Ensure full funding for student security needs, without requiring financial support from local communities.
- Increase the **Base Student Allocation** to allow increases in Florida's teacher base salary, address compression, and ensure salary increases for all teachers.

PROMOTE REGION AS A THRIVING BUSINESS ECOSYSTEM.

- Grow funding levels to the **Florida Division of Arts & Culture** (DAC) grant programs and maximize the number of organizations/artists/municipalities who receive funding from the 2026-2027 state budget to drive economic growth and cultural tourism, support quality of life, enhance educations, and foster social cohesion in our communities.
- Preserve **Tourist Development Tax** (TDT/Bed Tax) revenue to drive our tourism economy – supporting local businesses, sustaining jobs, funding arts and sustainability initiatives, hosting world-class sporting events, and keeping Palm Beach North, and all The Palm Beaches, vibrant for residents and visitors alike.
- Support beach and inlet management appropriations for Palm Beach North communities on a Local, State, and Federal level.
- Support funding for local public safety initiatives to promote tourism in Palm Beach North.
- Support **FloridaCommerce** programs, including Small Business Assistance, Economic Development, and Workforce Investments, to strengthen businesses, grow the economy, and enhance the workforce.

PROMOTE GROWTH OF HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY.

- Support continued funding for targeted cancer research programs – specifically the **Cancer Connect Collaborative Research Incubator** – aimed at making Florida a national leader in cancer care.
- Support the **Health Care District of Palm Beach County's** appropriations request for the capital development of a one-of-a-kind Crisis Center.





PALM BEACH NORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PROUD AWARD RECIPIENT

Florida Chamber of Commerce

- Florida Chamber's 2024 Chair's Award

Florida Association of Chamber Professionals (FACP)

- Chamber of the Year, 2023
- Executive of the Year - Noel Martinez, 2023
- Chamber Professional of the Year - Jill Mondo, 2024
- Certified Plus Chamber

Florida Festivals & Events Association (FEEA)

Annual ArtiGras Fine Arts Festival

*Premier Community Event Produced by the
Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce*

- 1st Place Poster 2025
- 1st Place - New Event - ArtiGras Podcast 2025
- 2nd Place Mobile App 2024
- 2nd Place Television Commercial 2024
- 3rd Place PR/Media Campaign 2024
- 3rd Place Commemorative Poster 2024

Confronting Hate: Insights from the Israeli Frontline
*Informative Panel in Collaboration with the Jewish
Federation of Palm Beach County*

- 2nd Place Multi Agency Program 2024

Sunshine Artist 200 Best

- ArtiGras Fine Arts Festival Top 100 2024 & 2025

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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